## WHITEFISH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT **MINUTES April 13, 2016**

The April 2016 regular meeting of the District Board of Directors was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Denny. Directors Cavin, Kibbe, Goodman and Schmidt were present, as was Rita Hanson. Lori Curtis from Whitefish Lake Institute was also present.

MINUTES: Minutes of the March 23, 2016 meeting were approved as presented.

**FINANCIAL:** Financials were not discussed at this time as it was still early in the month.

**AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES:** The question arose as to funding again this year for the Browning station. Lori says that there is need for a station at State Park launch site and they will be working on that. It was also questioned who funds the different stations, as WLI takes care of some AIS duties, and we have assisted in funding with Flathead Basin Commission, more specifically the Browning inspection station in order to facilitate longer hours in the summer. Rita was asked to seek clarification on funding for different stations, etc.

PER UPDATE: Lori gave an update on the PER for Lion Mountain, starting with the beginning of the project and search for engineers. She went on to discuss the public meeting held in Council Chambers, then meetings with City Council. Though we had scheduled this meeting to conclude the paperwork for Lion Mountain PER, Lori said the situation was not as crucial as first expected and WLI was not recommending funding applications for 2016; however, we may want to pursue for 2018. The reason for the decision is that there are a number of goals that need to be accomplished in addition the PER, that are not yet completed. Those include: management infrastructure in order to support application for funding in both administrative and financial capacity; the City needs to have in place a method of addressing relationship between the City and the homeowners in affected neighborhoods regarding the collection of fees associated with wastewater management projects; a management district must be in place as an SID or RSID; and a majority of the homeowners of the affected areas need to be on board and supportive of the project. Carver Engineering will deliver the content for the application process so we will be ready to apply in 2018. PER will remain valid for the 2018 application process but may require some updated cost estimates which is covered by grant funding. WLI is acting in the role as technical facilitator and will continue to facilitate development of relationships to address issues with the least financial burden on the public. They will work with project partners to address remaining open issues between now and next funding cycle (May 2018). WLI will keep us informed as things go along

Lori asked if "we", the District Board, likes doing what we currently do, and wondered should there be a bigger role for the District. What about the possibility of a Management District? There was discussion on how to encourage ideas on informing the public about degradation of Whitefish Lake. Give thought....

There was no **New Business** to address.

**NEXT MEETING:** 

May 18, 2016

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 

5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Hanson